

NSC BRIEFING

12 September 1957

SOVIET ICBM ANNOUNCEMENT

I. As I informed the Council on 19 July, Soviets have been setting up a new guided missile range, [REDACTED] 25X1

25X1 [REDACTED]

II. On 26 August, Soviets announced "successful test of an inter-continental ballistic rocket." 25X1

III. We believe this statement is based on facts. [REDACTED]

25X1 [REDACTED]

V. There is long road from first test to operational weapon.

A. Our previous estimate has been that Soviets could have first operational ICBM capability (i.e., one unit equipped to fire such missiles in anger) in 1960-61. CIA's hunch is that the date may now have to be moved up to 1959.

VI. If fired from Chukotsk area, 3,500 nautical mile missile could reach all of United States [REDACTED] 25X1

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